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Interesting side-lights are thrown on the Jesuit foundations in North America and on the great work done by the Order in those early days. The noble character of Father De Smet is laid bare with its forgetfulness of self and its unbounded confidence in God. Through every page looms the impressive figure of this extraordinary man, who was at the same time explorer, geographer, linguist, and author, and last, though not least, successful mediator between the United States Government and the Indian tribes. An alphabetical index adds to the value of this excellent life-story of a truly remarkable man.

The Conquest of Virginia the Forest Primeval. By Conway Whittle Sams, B.L. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1916. Pp. 432. Maps and illustrations.

Every reader of American history, even the school-boy, has sketched for himself an outline of Indian environment. In imagination one sees him in his wigwam communing with the genius of solitude or, in a fit of activity, going forth to enjoy the pleasures of the chase or the rapture of the fight. We behold his patient squaw bearing his burdens or toiling in his fields. Our early reading has made us familiar with his stoicism and his cruelty. In a word, by a succession of touches we have constructed for ourselves a picture of the daily life of the aboriginal race of America. An examination of *The Conquest of Virginia* is likely to make some alterations in our cherished picture of Indian civilization.

This volume, the first of a series projected by its author, is called *The Conquest of Virginia* because in his opinion it was a conquest "as truly as that of Granada by Ferdinand and Isabella, Mexico by Cortez, or Peru by Pizarro." Mr. Sams might have added that it was more complete than any of them, for in Virginia there are few survivors of the native tribes.

The introduction briefly notices the European wars concerning religion. In this section the author, who believes that the grand object of Philip II was to extirpate heretics, does not appear to have examined the recent discussions of the era of the Armada. In America as well as in England, future historians will conclude that the piratical acts of Drake and others sufficiently justified the attempt of Philip to make England a dependency of Spain.

The character of the Indians is established by numerous citations from those observers who studied them before they had been influenced by contact or by conflict with the whites. An interesting chapter describes the food, the clothing, and the social organization of the natives. There is also included a careful account of their hunting, fishing, and agriculture as well as of their skill in the making of weapons, pottery, and canoes.

What will be new to many a reader is the description of the houses of a people who, he had always believed, dwelt in tents and wigwams. Some will doubtless be surprised to learn of the existence upon the arrival of the English in Virginia of considerable Indian towns. Most of the illustrations had shown them a few feathered heads in the forest.

There is an excellent discussion of the political and the military systems of the aborigines, and of the medicine-man, who reminds one of the Druids of old. So far as it is understood the mysterious and terrible rite of *hus-ka-naw-ing* is explained.

The burial mounds are fully treated; also the method of embalming and burying the kings. Considerable space is devoted to the religion of the Indians as well as to an account of their priests and conjurers. There are good sketches of Powhatan and Wingina, the most renowned kings in the early Jamestown days. A useful chapter examines and illustrates the vocabulary of the Indians.

Not much is said of the extension of English authority even in the tidewater regions of Virginia and almost nothing is said as to why tribe after tribe vanished before the English. This subject, indeed, is one of the most obscure in all colonial history. Not in every case was it the cruelty of the white race which swept the natives from the face of the earth. Doubtless the white man's rum counted as many victims as did his adroitness or his firearms.

The History of Mother Seton's Daughters. The Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati, Ohio. By Sister Mary Agnes McCann, M.A. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1917. Vol. i, pp. xxvii+336; Vol. ii, pp. vii+334.

To tell the story of the Sisters of Charity of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati (1829-1917) with a wealth of new material and in